
BOOK OVERVIEW

Job

Author: unknown (possibly Job)

Date: about 2000–1800 B.C. (during the time of Abraham, it is probably the oldest book in the Bible)

Recipients: not noted

Key word: affliction (11 times)

Summary: The account of Job whose physical suffering reveals God’s working behind the scenes.

Key verses: Job 2:3; 42:10

Theme: Why do the righteous suffer?

Notes:

Job is the first of the Poetic books, which account for about twenty percent of the Old Testament.

The land of Uz (Job 1:1) was an area east of the Jordan River.

The book refutes the recurring idea espoused by Job’s three friends that his physical problems were a consequence of his sin. The book reveals that Job’s afflictions were a test rather than a punishment.

Job 13:15 shows Job’s heart for God in spite of the taunting of his friends and family.

The book may include the first mention of the resurrection. (19:25-27)

Job lived an additional 140 years after what is recorded in this book. (42:16)

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